GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4210
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2017
National Health Policy 2017
Singh Shri Parvesh Sahib

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has the latest data on the incidence of geriatric health issues, if so, the details thereof, State/ UT-wise, including Delhi;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the National Health Policy 2017 (NHP) recognises a need to address geriatric health concerns and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government is considering to implement measures in line with the NHP to address geriatric health concerns and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)
(a) & (b): The Government is currently implementing "Longitudinal Ageing Study in India (LASI)" survey through Indian Institute of Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai which was launched on 22nd March, 2016 under the tertiary level activities of National Programme for Health Care of the Elderly (NPHCE) to assess the health status of the elderly (age45-60). LASI is designed to cover four major subjects and policy domain of adult and older population of India i.e. Health, Health Care & Health Financing, Social Factors and Economic Situation. This project is going to be one of the largest comprehensive ageing surveys in the world with a sample size of 61,000. Currently, data collection is in progress in 16 States/UTs. The fact sheets of key indicators of geriatric health for these 16 States/UTs are planned to be presented by January 2018. Information of remaining States/UTs is planned to be released in December, 2018.
(c): Yes. The following point no. 3.3.1, 4.6 and 16 of National Health Policy, 2017, recognises a need to address geriatric health concerns:-
3.3.1 Primary Care Services and Continuity of Care: "This policy denotes important change from very selective to comprehensive primary health care package which includes geriatric health care, palliative care and rehabilitative care services".

Contdâ€¦â€¦..

4.6 Non − Communicable Diseases: "The National Health Policy commits itself to culturally appropriate community centered solutions to meet the health needs of the ageing community in addition to compliance with constitutional obligations as per the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007. The policy recognizes the growing need for palliative and rehabilitative care for all geriatric illnesses and advocates the continuity of care across all levels".
16 Medical Technologies: "At the tertiary care level too, at least for in-patients and out-patients in geriatric and chronic care segments, most drugs and diagnostics should be free or subsidized with fair price selling mechanisms for most and some co-payments for the "well-to-do".
(d): Yes.
The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare had launched the "National Programme for the Health Care of Elderly" (NPHCE) during 2010-11 to address various health related problems of elderly people.

The major objectives of the NPHCE are establishment of Department of Geriatric in identified Medical Institutions as Regional Geriatric Centres for different regions of the country and to provide dedicated health facilities in District Hospitals, Community Health Centres (CHCs), Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and Sub-Centres (SCs) levels through State Health Society. The following measures are being taken under the programme to address geriatric health concerns:-

i) Setting up of Geriatric department in identified Regional Geriatric Centres (RGC) with OPD care services and 30 bedded Geriatric ward for providing indoor services..
ii) Setting up of Geriatric units at District Hospitals that will provide specialist services. A 10 bedded Geriatric Ward will also be set up for providing indoor services.
iii) Establishment of Rehabilitation unit at all Community Health Centres (CHCs) and Geriatric clinic twice/week.

iv) Setting up weekly Geriatric clinic by trained medical Officer at Primary Health Centres (PHCs).
v) Information, Education and Communication (IEC) on healthy life style, home care to the bed ridden and supportive devices for the needy elderly persons at sub-centre level.
In addition, Two National Centres of Ageing (NCAs), being developed under the programme within the premises of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi and Madras Medical College (MMC), Chennai, have functions as indicated below:-
â€¢ Health Care delivery with 200 bedded facility
â€¢ Training of Health Professionals
â€¢ Research activity
â€¢ Development of Health Professionals.
â€¢ Development of IEC material and course curricula.
.....